(b) The Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment has stipulated that "smokeless chulhas" should form an integral part of the houses constructed under Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY). The progress reports receive so far from 15 State government indicate that about three lakh smokeless chulhas have been provided in such houses duirng 1996-97.

(c) Steps already taken to promote the use of improved chulhas under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely National Programme on Improved Chulhas include continuation of Technical Back-up Units in different States for developing user friendly models and training of women users, self employed workers and entrepreneurs; provision of central subsidy, supervision and maintenance charges and dealership incentive; and publicity and extension.

Small Hydro Power Project in Maharashtra

1328. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether small hydro power projects have been installed in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such more projects are likely to be installed during 1997-98 and by the end of current century in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 3 Small Hydro Power (SHP) projects (upto 3 MW Station capacity) namely, Yeoteshwar (75 KW), Dhom (2000 KW) and Vaitarna Dam-Toe (1500 KW) have so far been installed in Maharashtra.

(c) and (d) 5 SHP projects with an aggregate capacity of 8.7 MW are in various stages of execution. In addition, 2 more projects of 2.75 MW aggregate capacity are proposed to be taken up for execution during 1997-98. All these projects are likely to be completed by the end of current century.

Power Projects by Cognetrix in Karnataka

1329. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.S. multinational Cognetrix has so far not taken any final decision with regard to setting up of 1000 MW thermal power plant at Mangalore in Karnataka;

(b) whether the firm plan to revise power purchase agreement and increase the project cost due to delay in implementation; and

(c) if so, the steps Central Government propose to take to give a speedy clearance to the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) M/s. Mangalore Power Company (MPC), promoted by M/s. Cognetrix, has proposed to set up a 1000 MW thermal power plant at Mangalore in Karnataka.

(b) The Power Purchase Agreement between Karnataka Electricity Board and MPC for the project has not been finalised. Based on the request of MPC, Government of Karnataka has recommended a project cost escalation to the Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

(c) The CEA has already accorded Techno-Economic Clearance to the project on 10.7.1996.